

COVID-19 measures and impact on ESO

EIROforum AHG Safety Meeting

16 Apr 2020

Current situation at ESO - workplace

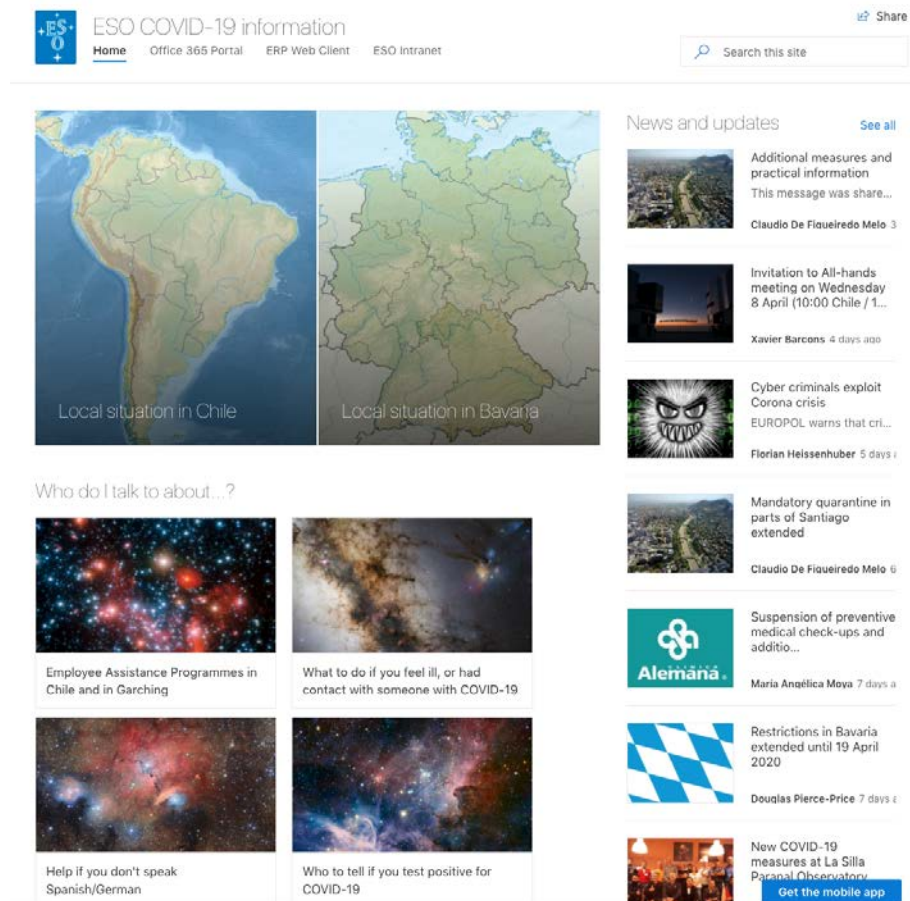
- Garching: minimal amount of (essential) people in the premises only (a handful of staff plus Facility Management contractors), visitors centre closed
- Vitacura:
 - Currently restricted to (enhanced) security and occasional visits by manager on duty
 - ALMA Santiago Central Office empty
- Observatory sites in “safe state” as of last week of Mar
 - No science operations, only minimal teams on site to monitor critical systems and to keep the site safe and secure
 - Paranal: 21 people
 - La Silla: 5 people
 - APEX: 5 people
- ALMA also ceased science operations late March and is currently destaffed (4-6 people inspecting the site daily)
- Construction activities for the ELT still ongoing
- Each site has a “manager on duty”, id on screens

Current situation at ESO - people

- Most people on mobile working
 - A very small number of people on special leave
- IT infrastructure working well and supporting collaborative work
 - Trainings & recommendations from IT
 - Use of Microsoft Teams
- Most personnel are busy (if not busier), keeping up on the work under a more difficult setup

COVID-19 internal page

- Constantly updated with latest news
 - Those requiring immediate attention announced separately
- No VPN needed, only ADS credentials
- Both desktop and mobile versions



The screenshot shows the ESO COVID-19 information intranet page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the ESO logo, the title "ESO COVID-19 information", and links for "Home", "Office 365 Portal", "ERP Web Client", and "ESO Intranet". A search bar is located on the right. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features two maps: "Local situation in Chile" and "Local situation in Bavaria". Below these are four articles with space-themed images: "Employee Assistance Programmes in Chile and in Garching", "What to do if you feel ill, or had contact with someone with COVID-19", "Help if you don't speak Spanish/German", and "Who to tell if you test positive for COVID-19". The right column is titled "News and updates" and lists several articles: "Additional measures and practical information", "Invitation to All-hands meeting on Wednesday 8 April (10:00 Chile / 1...", "Cyber criminals exploit Corona crisis", "Mandatory quarantine in parts of Santiago extended", "Suspension of preventive medical check-ups and additio...", "Restrictions in Bavaria extended until 19 April 2020", and "New COVID-19 measures at La Silla Paranal Observatory". A "Get the mobile app" button is at the bottom right.

Crisis management & follow-up at ESO

- COVID-19 Emergency Team constituted:
 - Daily (Mon-Fri) meetings to review situation and decide actions
- Daily meetings with International Staff Association & Local Staff representatives to discuss updates and welcome feedback & initiatives
- Frequent updates of the situation posted, plus emails to staff when immediate attention is needed
- Business continuity plan drafted, being updated
- External communication
 - Q&A prepared, announcements released

Planning ahead: Ramp-up to normal operation

- Coming back to a full operational state will surely be staggered
 - Following national regulations (Germany, Chile)
 - Start planning staggered return
 - **Unknown start date**
- Additionally
 - Garching, Vitacura and the observatory sites will probably not be synchronized
 - Resuming of international travel not to be expected in the near future